

AMBERTON UNIVERSITY
SYLLABUS FOR LECTURE/CLASSROOM COURSE

MGT5720.01 Critical Thinking
Fall 2026
Location: Garland

PROFESSOR INFORMATION:

Professor: Dr. Jonathan Schultz
Amberton Extension:: 972-279-6511 ext. 143
Faculty Fax #: 972-686-5890
Office Location: Garland Room SC
Office Hours: By Appointment
Amberton Email : JSchultz@Amberton.edu

COURSE INFORMATION:

MGT5720.01 Critical Thinking
Level: Graduate
Beginning Date of Session: Saturday, 9/12
Ending Date of Session: Thursday, 11/19
The first class meeting is **9/19**, in **Room SC (Garland)**

All Monday-Thursday lecture classes begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.
All Saturday lecture classes begin promptly at 8:30 a.m.

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

None

TEXTBOOK(S) AND REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Title: Thinking Critically
Author: Chaffee
Publisher: Cengage
Year Published: 2019
Edition: 12th
ISBN: 13: 9780357690109
Price: Available at <http://amberton.ecampus.com>

Amberton University has an agreement with eCampus.com to provide a full-service online bookstore to students. The Amberton University Virtual Bookstore is accessible through the University's website, www.Amberton.edu. There is also a bookstore link in the Student Portal.

The AU Virtual Bookstore provides an easy-to-use interface, online buyback of books, and same day shipment of most titles with an average delivery time of 2-3 days depending on the student's location. Textbook options include new, used, rental, and electronic media as available.

Since no books are sold on campus, students should plan accordingly and purchase their books in advance of the first day of class, allowing time for shipping. Be certain you are enrolled in the course before purchasing your book(s). All textbook information (Title, Author, ISBN, etc.) is available in course syllabi so students can shop competitively. Most textbooks can be purchased from many different textbook vendors. Some textbooks may only be available on the University's Virtual Bookstore. Students should be careful to obtain the exact resource(s) required for the course.

APA Requirement

APA (American Psychological Association) style is most commonly used to cite sources within the social sciences. This resource, revised according to the 7th edition, offers examples for the general format of APA research papers, in-text citations, endnotes/footnotes, and the reference page. For more information, please

consult the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, (7th ed.). All coursework at Amberton University will comply with the standards contained in the APA Publication Manual.

COURSE COMPETENCIES:

Critical thinking is among the most significant and practical tools for any individual, regardless of career status or life objectives. Philosophy is indeed the foundation of critical thinking, and a grasp of certain philosophical principles is essential to the most basic levels of logic, problem analysis, decision making, and creativity. In leadership and business, critical thinking must serve as the fundamental pillar that supports sound decision-making and effective policy. This course will explore business related critical thought in the following ways: the concept of 'thinking,' perceptions, constructing knowledge, forming and applying concepts, relationships and organizing, morals, arguments, and reasoning.

CAVEAT: No graduate credit will be awarded if MGT4720 has been successfully completed.

UPON COMPLETION OF THE COURSE, THE STUDENT WILL BE COMPETENT IN:

1. Employing a correct range of terminology related to thinking.
2. Identifying the key elements of structured logic, deductive, and inductive reasoning.
3. Recognizing the difference between valid and invalid arguments as compared to true and false propositions.
4. Discussing contemporary theories of morality stemming from critical thinking.
5. Demonstrate solving complex business problems using critical thinking.
6. Developing criteria for evaluating, clarifying, and expressing beliefs, theories, methods, and conflicting issues.
7. Describing fundamental aspects to critical thinking, such as perceiving and believing.
8. Identifying how believing and knowing leads to knowledge construction.
9. Recognizing and explaining the power of language and thought in business interactions.
10. Applying knowledge of critical thinking to strategies and conceptual models.
11. Linking and synthesizing the principles of critical thinking to organizational structures and employment relationships in critical thinking course.
12. Applying research, writing skills, and resource documentation to critical thinking.
13. Understanding and applying reasoning as a critical thinker.
14. Examine living creatively and consider the elements in life needed to nurture creativity.
15. Explore the role of critical thinking habits of an active learner and the nature of life-long learning.
16. Demonstrate the stages of knowing and how reliable sources and veracity shape our decisions.
17. Understand how the symbolic nature of language and denotation/connotation influences thought.
18. Assessing how use of artificial intelligence (AI) impacts critical thinking in business settings.

Acquired Skills:

1. Critical Thinking
2. Deductive Reasoning
3. Problem-Solving

COURSE POLICIES:

Student's Responsibilities

This syllabus contains information, policies, and procedures for a specific course. By enrolling, the student agrees to read, understand, and abide by the policies, rules, regulations, and ethical standards of Amberton University as contained in the current university catalog and schedule of classes.

Attendance Policy:

Regular and punctual class attendance and engagement is expected at Amberton University. In case of an absence, it is the student's responsibility to contact the professor as soon as possible. If a student intends on withdrawing from a course, it is the student's responsibility to follow the university's policy on formally withdrawing from a course. **Ceasing to attend classes does not constitute an official withdrawal.**

Attendance in a lecture course is defined as punctual arrival to, and engagement in, a full lecture session. A Student in a lecture course missing more than 20% (two class periods for weekday classes or one class period for Saturday classes) of the class meetings may be assigned a grade of an “F” or withdrawn at the discretion of Amberton University.

Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else’s work as though it were your own. If you use another person’s words, ideas, or information; or if you use material from an outside source – whether a book, magazine, newspaper, business publication, broadcast, speech, or electronic media – you must acknowledge that source. Plagiarism is a violation of the University’s code of student ethical conduct and is one that is taken seriously. Amberton University operates on an honor system; therefore, honesty and integrity are essential characteristics of all who are associated with the institution. All Amberton students are expected to abide by the honor system and maintain academic integrity in all their work. Amberton University and its instructors monitor student work for plagiarism and reserve the right to submit such work to technology-based plagiarism detection services and applications at any time.

Self-plagiarism means reusing work that you have already published or submitted for a class. It can involve:

- Resubmitting an entire paper
- Copying or paraphrasing passages from your previous work

Self-plagiarism misleads your readers by presenting previous work as completely new and original. Students may not submit the same paper in substance in two or more classes without prior written permission of the instructors involved.

Amberton University students who use Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated content must adhere to the following policies:

Originality: Students must avoid presenting AI generated content as their own original work. It is essential to acknowledge the involvement of AI in the content creation process in order to maintain academic and ethical standards.

Paraphrasing: When using AI generated content, students must rephrase and/or modify the generated text. Paraphrased AI generated content should also be properly cited.

Acknowledgement: When using AI generated content in any assignment, proper credit must be given to the AI system that generated the content. <https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>

Students agree that by taking this course, all required assignments may be subject to submission for a textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism and self-plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism in future papers. Use of Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com website.

Turnitin is a writing improvement and plagiarism prevention tool which uses special algorithms, to compare text-based student submissions to the Turnitin database and other online sources. Turnitin produces a detailed **similarity report** that can be customized and viewed by instructors and students.

Turnitin “Draft Coach” is a Google based add-on to Turnitin which supports students in developing high-quality academic writing; and serves as an integrity coach. Draft Coach helps address errors and improve the quality of student’s writing by highlighting grammar mistakes, identifying incorrectly cited sources, and scanning for similarity across several databases. By providing formative feedback on how to address citation issues, incorrect grammar, and matches with the Turnitin database, Draft Coach provides explanations to help students become more confident writers, capable of producing higher quality work both in academics and in the workplace.

COURSE DELIVERY METHODOLOGY:

This course is offered as a Lecture/Classroom course. This course requires that students meet at a designated time in the classroom.

(Describe the kinds of activities that will be used in the classroom: lecture, group presentations, oral reports, written reports, research papers, etc.)

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR:

Week	Topic	Assignment	Competencies Covered	Due Date
1	The 'Examined' Life	Read Ch 1, Discussion Board 1, Class Introductions	1-13	Friday Midnight CST
2	Critical Thought in Business Environment	Read Ch 2, Quiz 1 (Ch 1-2)	1-13	Friday Midnight CST
3	Critical Thought in Solving Problems	Read Ch 3, Discussion Board 2	1-13	Friday Midnight CST
4	Perceiving and Believing	Read Ch 4, Quiz 2 (Ch 3-4)	1-13	Friday Midnight CST
5	Truth and Knowledge	Read Ch 5, Discussion Board 3	1-13	Friday Midnight CST
6	Exploring Language and Thought	Read Ch 6, Quiz 3 (Ch 5-6)	1-13	Friday Midnight CST
7	Forming and Applying Critical Thought	Read Ch 7, Discussion Board 4	1-13	Friday Midnight CST
8	Critical Thought and Relationships	Read Ch 8, Quiz 4 (Ch 7-8)	1-13	Friday Midnight CST
9	Critical Thought and Moral Issues	Read Ch 9, Moral Reasoning Project	1-13	Friday Midnight CST
10	Critical Thought and Sound Arguments	Read Ch 10 Quiz 5 (Ch 9-10)	1-13	Tuesday Midnight CST
	Quizzes (5)	50%		
	Discussions (4)	40%		
	Project	10%		

GRADING CRITERIA:

Graduate	
92 – 100	A
82 – 91	B
72 – 81	C
62 – 71	D
Below 62	F

GRADE NOTIFICATION AND INSTRUCTOR FEEDBACK:

Students should review instructor feedback provided through Moodle or Amberton CampusWeb Portal. Final grades are processed approximately one week after the session and may be viewed through the student portal. Grades will not be released by phone or through unsecured channels. University instructors will not leave a message with comments or grades in any type of media that is not secure.

For questions regarding grades after the semester has ended, students should use their university email account and contact the instructor at the faculty email address as provided above in Professor Information area.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

An "I" (Incomplete) grade is granted only at the professor's discretion for emergencies or illness.

Students have 30 days from the end of the session to complete the course requirements. If the conditions are not met within this 30-day window, the "I" automatically converts to an "F".

HOW TO WITHDRAW FROM A COURSE

To be official, the class withdrawal must be in writing and signed by the student requesting the withdrawal; no withdrawal is accepted verbally. Please review the "Schedule of Classes" (online or in-print) for procedures for class changes or withdrawals and the refund policy and schedule.

COURSE DELIVERY METHODOLOGY:

This course is delivered through Moodle. Students are expected to have reliable internet access, basic computer skills, the ability to upload/download files, use Amberton email, and submit assignments in the required format. Students needing assistance should use the Amberton SSO support/ticket process.

HOW TO ACCESS YOUR COURSE:

SINGLE SIGN-ON (SSO) INSTRUCTIONS FOR AMBERTON UNIVERSITY

Students should access Amberton systems through the Single Sign-On portal at <https://sso.amberton.edu>. After logging in, students can access Moodle, Amberton email, CampusWeb, and other assigned applications. Students who need help accessing SSO should submit a support request through the SSO support option or contact support@amberton.edu.

MOODLE TUTORIAL:

Upon successful log in and access to the Moodle learning platform, there is a Student Moodle Tutorial course available, to learn about the basics of Moodle. Simply click on the link for the Student Moodle Tutorial and read through the various learning topics: Navigating; Communicating; Assignments & Exams; Grades; and Student Resources.

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS:

Students will communicate with faculty through the Moodle Learning Platform or the Amberton University email system.

EMAIL COMMUNICATION

Students are expected to use their Amberton email account and Moodle for course communications. Students must use their official university email account for all university related communication and should check their Amberton emails regularly for course and university notices.

Upon completion of a session, all communication and course specific information is removed from the Moodle system. If a student needs to maintain a record of communications or assignments, the student is strongly encouraged to print out or download these items to a disk for their own records.

FORMAT AND SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Assignments must be submitted through the appropriate Moodle assignment link unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Students are responsible for submitting files in the format required by the instructor.

INSTRUCTOR/COURSE EVALUATION:

Students will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous course and instructor evaluation near the end of the session. Instructions and dates will be provided through Moodle and/or Amberton email.

RESEARCH RESOURCES:

The Amberton Library provides access to full-text articles, peer-reviewed databases, and research tools, with options like Interlibrary Loan (ILL) and TexShare for items outside its collection. For research assistance, students can connect with library staff during operating hours via email (Library@amberton.edu), phone (972-279-6511 ext. 185), "How-to" videos, live online chat, or in person at the Garland campus. The online library is available through Single Sign On (SSO).

MICROSOFT OFFICE 365 EDUCATION:

Amberton University students may access Microsoft 365 Education resources as provided by the university.

GOOGLE WORKSPACE FOR EDUCATION:

Amberton students are assigned a Google Workspace for Education account, including Amberton Gmail, Google Drive, Google Docs, Sheets, and Slides. Students should use their Amberton Google account for course-related work when required.